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## BELIEF IN THE ANGELS

[1] Allah (swt) says, **“The Messenger believes in what has been revealed to him from his Lord, as do the faithful. They all believe in Allah, His angels, His scriptures, and His messengers”** (Quran 2:285).

[2] We are not told exactly how many prophets there were or how many angels there have been through a definitive revelation. Therefore, we are not responsible for knowing particular numbers or names of all the angels. However, we are responsible to affirm whichever angel is in existence, what they are made of and what they are.

[3] Angels are made of a special light (*nur*). They are pure and can’t sin as oppose to jinn who are made of a special type of fire.

[4] There are ten angels we must know about as their names have been related: Jibril, Mika’il, Israfil, ‘Azra’il, Munkar, Nakir, Raqib, ‘Atid, Malik and Ridwan.

### Jibril

[1] Jibril is a Messenger between Allah (swt) and the Prophets.

[2] He is also responsible for punishments and other special tasks.

[3] Allah (swt) says, **“If anyone is an enemy of Jibril—who by God’s leave brought down the Qur’an to your heart confirming previous scriptures as a guide and good news for the faithful”** (Qur’an 2:97).

[4] Known as *Ruh al-Amin* (The Trustworthy Spirit). Allah (swt) says, **“Truly, this Qur’an has been sent down by the Lord of the Worlds: the Trustworthy Spirit brought it down to your heart [Prophet], so that you could bring warning”** (Qur’an 26:192-194).

[5] Also known as *Ruh al-Qudus* (The Holy Spirit). Allah (swt) says, **“And we gave Jesus, son of Maryam, Our clear signs and strengthened him with the Holy Spirit”** (Qur’an 2:253).

[6] Also known as *Namus*, which is the name that Waraqa referred to Jibril (as) with.

### Mika’il

Mika’il is specifically responsible for the oceans, rain and sustenance.

### Israfil

[1] Israfil is responsible for blowing the trumpet.

[2] With the first blowing, everything in this world will be annihilated. Then *Israfil* will also be put to death and brought to life again for the second blowing of the trumpet. When the trumpet is blown the second time, everything will come back to life.

### 'Azra'il

[1] 'Azra'il is responsible for taking the lives of people.

[2] Also known as 'Izra'il and referred to as *Malak al-Mawt* in the Qur'an.

[3] Allah (swt) says, **"Say, 'The Angel of Death put in charge of you will reclaim you, and then you will be brought back to your Lord'"** (Qur'an 32:11).

### Munkar and Nakir

[1] Munkar and Nakir are the two angels in charge of questioning people in their graves about their faith.

[2] Allah's Messenger (saw) said: **"When a person is buried, two angels come – black and blue, one of whom is called Munkar and the other Nakir"** (Tirmidhi).

### Raqib and 'Atid

[1] Raqib and 'Atid are the two angels who accompany every human being and record their deeds. They are referred to as *Kiraman Katibin* (The Noble Writers) in the Qur'an.

[2] The angel on the right side records only the good deeds and the angel on the left side records only the bad deeds.

[3] Allah (swt) says, **"Over you stand watchers, noble recorders who know what you do"** (Qur'an 82:10-12).

[4] Allah (swt) says, **"He does not utter a single word without an ever-present watcher"** (Qur'an 50:18).

### Malik

[1] Malik is in charge of Hellfire.

[2] There are seven types of Hellfire: *Jahannam, Ladhā, Hutama, Sa'ī, Saqar, Jaheem, Hawiyah*.

[3] *Zabaniyah* are a group of nineteen angels who watch over Hellfire. Allah (swt) says, **"Over it (Hell) are nineteen (angels)"** (Qur'an 74:30).

## Ridwan

[1] Ridwan is in charge of Paradise.

[2] There are seven types of Paradise: *Jannat al Firdaws*, *Jannat al-Ma'wa*, *Jannat al-Khuld*, *Jannat al-Na'eem*, *Jannat al-Adn*, *Dar al-Salam*, *Dar al-Jalal*.

# BELIEF IN THE DIVINE BOOKS

## The Final Revelation

[1] The Qur'an was revealed to the final Messenger, Prophet Muhammad (saw).

[2] The Qur'an is also referred to as **"Al-Furqan"** (The Criterion).

[3] The Qur'an confirms the scriptures that came before it. Allah (swt) says, **"We sent to you the Scripture with the truth, confirming the Scriptures that came before it, and with final authority over them: so judge between them according to what Allah has sent down"** (Qur'an 5:48).

[4] There have been alterations and changes to the previous scriptures (*suhuf*). Allah (swt) says:

- i. **"So can you [believers] hope that such people will believe you, when some of them used to hear the words of Allah and then deliberately twist them, even when they understood them?"** (Qur'an 2:75).
- ii. **"Some Jews distort the meaning of [revealed] words"** (Qur'an 4:46).
- iii. **"O People of the Book, Our Messenger has come to make clear to you much of what you have kept hidden of the Scripture, and to overlook much [you have done]"** (Qur'an 5:14-15).

## Tawrah (Torah)

[1] The Tawrah was revealed to Musa (Moses) [as].

[2] Allah (swt) says, **"We revealed the Torah with guidance and light"** (Qur'an 5:44).

## Zabur (Psalms)

[1] The Zabur was revealed to Dawud (David) [as].

[2] Allah (swt) says, **"We gave Dawud the Zabur"** (Qur'an 4:163).

### Injil (Evangel)

[1] The Injil was revealed to 'Isa (Jesus) [as].

[2] Allah (swt) says, **“We sent Isa, son of Maryam, in their footsteps, to confirm the Tawrah that had been sent before him”** (Qur'an 5:46).

### Other Scriptures

[1] Ibrahim (as) was also sent scriptures.

[2] Musa (as) was sent scriptures before the Tawrah.

[3] There are some reports that say there were others Prophets – like Adam (as) and Seth (as) – who were also given scriptures, but there isn't strong evidence to support this.

## BELIEF IN THE DIVINE DECREE

[1] Allah (swt) says, **“We have created everything in due measure”** (Qur’an 54:49).

[2] Allah (swt) created everything in perfect proportion.

[3] *Qada’* (ordaining pre-destination) is His foreknowledge of events prior to their occurrence, while *Qadar* (decreeing) is His bringing into existence those events in accordance with how He knows them to be.

### The Pen and the Divine Tablet

[1] The first thing Allah (swt) created was the Pen and the Divine Tablet (*al-Lawh al-Mahfuz*).

[2] Allah’s Messenger (saw) said, **“The first thing Allah created was the Pen, after which He commanded it to write. The Pen asked its Lord what it should write. Allah said, ‘Write all that is to occur until the Day of Judgment’”** (Tirmidhi).

[3] The Pen wrote down in a descriptive fashion what everyone is going to do.

### Predestination and Free Will

[1] He knows how things are going to be with the free will He has given us. Just because everything has been written, we are not forced to go in a particular way; we have a choice. Allah (swt) says, **“Let those who wish to believe in it do so, and let those who wish to reject it do so”** (Qur’an, 18:29).

[2] Every choice we are going to make is also known by Allah (swt), and the book has related that. For example, a teacher will predict what grades his students will get on an exam based on his prior knowledge of his students.

[3] Everything happens with the will of Allah.

[4] Allah (swt) says, **“But you will only wish to do so if Allah wills”** (Qur’an 76:30).

[5] Part of *Iman* is to believe that Allah (swt) knows and decrees everything. He doesn’t have to like it or be pleased with it.